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PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

THE SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA: PROCEDURES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FIRM AND LASTING PEACE AND PROGRESS IN FASHIONING A REGION OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/50/L.72

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: M. Peter MADDENS (Belgium)

1. At its 56th and 57th meetings, on 6 and 7 May 1996, the Fifth Committee, pursuant to rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/59) on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/50/L.72. The related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions was presented orally by its Chairman.

2. Statements and comments made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/50/SR.56 and 57).

DECISION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

3. The Fifth Committee, having considered draft resolution A/50/L.72, the statement of programme budget implications submitted by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/59) and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (see A/C.5/50/SR.56), and recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 50/214 of 23 December 1995, had already requested the Secretary-General to make economies in an amount of 103,991,200 United States dollars and had also requested the Secretary-General to fully

implement all mandated programmes and activities, while reaffirming the budgetary process adopted in resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and subsequent relevant resolutions, decided to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/50/L.72, the Secretary-General would be authorized to enter into commitments in an amount up to $1 million (net of staff assessment) under section 3 of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 for the continuation of a United Nations presence in El Salvador for the period from 1 May to 31 December 1996. The Secretary-General would be requested to present to the General Assembly, no later than 15 May 1996, proposals on possible means of absorption in the 1996-1997 programme budget, including, inter alia, in part II thereof.

4. The Committee also decided to revert to the issue of appropriations at the latter part of its May 1996 session, in the light of the Secretary-General's proposals requested herein.